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courage is contagious

Viewing cable 09BUENOSAIRES613, ARGENTINA: CFK EUPHORIC ABOUT PRESIDENT OBAMA'S

If you are new to these pages, please read an introduction on the [structure of a cable](#) as well as how to [discuss them](#) with others. See also the [FAQs](#)

Understanding cables

Every cable message consists of three parts:

- The top box shows each cables unique reference number, when and by whom it originally was sent, and what its initial classification was.
- The middle box contains the header information that is associated with the cable. It includes information about the receiver(s) as well as a general subject.
- The bottom box presents the body of the cable. The opening can contain a more specific subject, references to other cables ([browse by origin](#) to find them) or additional comment. This is followed by the main contents of the cable: a summary, a collection of specific topics and a comment section.

To understand the justification used for the classification of each cable, please use this [WikiSource](#) article as reference.

Discussing cables

If you find meaningful or important information in a cable, please link directly to its unique reference number. Linking to a specific paragraph in the body of a cable is also possible by copying the appropriate link (to be found at the paragraph symbol). Please mark messages for social networking services like Twitter with the hash tags **#cablegate** and a hash containing the reference ID e.g.

#09BUENOSAIRES613.

Reference ID	Created	Released	Classification	Origin
09BUENOSAIRES613	2009-05-26 19:36	2011-08-30 01:44	CONFIDENTIAL	Embassy Buenos Aires

Appears in these articles:

<http://www.lanacion.com.ar/1356989-la-presidenta-queria-una-relacion-mas-estrecha-con-estados-unidos>

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OO RUEHWEB

DE RUEHBU #0613 1461936
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FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3773
INFO RUCNMR/MERCOSUR COLLECTIVE
RHEHAAA/NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL WASHINGTON DC

C O N F I D E N T I A L BUENOS AIRES 000613

SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: DECL: 05/26/2029
TAGS: [PREL](#) [OPDC](#) [AR](#)
SUBJECT: ARGENTINA: CFK EUPHORIC ABOUT PRESIDENT OBAMA'S
NATIONAL DAY MESSAGE

REF: (A) STATE 50889 (B) BUENOS AIRES 0593

Classified By: Ambassador E. Anthony Wayne for reasons 1.4 (b) & (d).

¶1. (U) The Argentine presidency released to the press the text of President Obama's national day message for the May 25

holiday (ref A), and President Cristina Fernandez de Kirchner (CFK) said "it is something more than a gesture of greeting for all Argentines. The text speaks of democracies that defend human rights, that we should deepen the bilateral relationship and forge new joint initiatives in the field of justice and social inclusion. It identifies itself with what we have put forward and which (President Obama) himself put forward in his campaign and his administration."

¶2. (C) CFK also characterized the letter as "a gesture, just like it's a crystal-clear gesture (that the USG reportedly intends to nominate) the first woman Ambassador of the United States in Argentina and that she's someone with such a high profile...That's the only way to read it, and it's very promising." (CFK was referring to Ms. Vilma Martinez, the heretofore unofficial nominee as the next U.S. Ambassador to Argentina, whose name was leaked to the Argentine press by the GOA hours after it received an agreement request from the USG.)

¶3. (U) Under the headline "Obama sent a letter full of praise to the President and asked for more cooperation," daily newspaper of record "La Nacion" ran a subhead saying "The president of the United States praised the role of the country as a defender of human rights." In the article, "La Nacion" quoted an unnamed adviser to FM Taiana who said, "It is a letter of appreciation, not a mere formality. It puts the spotlight on Argentina's role on the world stage, and on its role in the G-20. It speaks of its influence in the region and beyond."

¶4. (SBU) Largest circulation daily "Clarín" also gave the message prominent coverage under the headline "Obama's letter to Cristina: he praised the Argentine 'efforts.'" Clarín published a facsimile of the text of the letter and quoted extensively from it throughout the article, claiming that "Obama's message holds out another bridge with the President while a meeting between the two continues to go unscheduled, at a time when Chilean President Michelle Bachelet was just invited to Washington. But in Washington, Cristina's spirited defense of Obama did not go unnoticed last Friday when Hugo Chavez cast doubts (ref B) on the possibility of a positive change in U.S. policy toward the region with (President Obama's) arrival in power."

¶5. (C) Comment: Argentine Obamamania seems to have prompted CFK to react euphorically to a routine, albeit warm and gracious, national day message. The media, including outlets not normally disposed to support CFK, seems to have accepted her interpretation that the letter is an exceptional White House overture to Argentina. Argentines have once again made a mountain out of a molehill -- but this time, happily, in our favor. We take it as a sign that CFK and many other Argentines are anxiously looking for signs of President Obama's favor.

WAYNE